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SOURCE Zemedske Noviny.

CZECHOSLOVAK DECREE ON REORGANIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

In the past, Czechoslovak agricultural colleges, advanced agricultural schools, and home economics schools trained the children of the village rich, while the children of small and middle farmers were limited to winter schools and people's schools [i.e., elementary schools].

After February 1948, the agricultural schools, with the exception of the agricultural colleges, were transferred to the administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, so that through closer contact with agricultural production they could train youth better for the requirements of agriculture. The first steps toward specialization of schools were made. The abolition of the home economics schools which trained the daughters of the village rich and the beginning of a class attitude in selecting students made it possible for a much larger number of children of middle farmers and workers to study at the agricultural schools.

Despite these measures, however, the old organization remained fundamentally the same and the agricultural schools were filled with the same type of student. The shortage of politically and professionally qualified teachers and the fact that most of the schools did not have their own school farms were other reasons why the agricultural schools have not yet trained enough professionally and politically qualified supervisory, semiskilled, and slightly trained personnel for the JZD (Unified Agricultural Cooperatives), the MTS, the state farms, public administration, and agricultural research.

To provide for the training of a sufficient number of professional workers with the qualifications and specialization required for the further development of socialist agricultural production, the government has resolved to take the following measures:

- 1 -

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## I. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES

To provide for high-quality training of new professional workers, to associate the colleges of agriculture with production, and to make sure that they extend effective aid in raising the qualifications of professional workers, as well as to solve all the problems connected with production goals and the socialization of agriculture, the administration and organization of the agricultural and veterinary colleges shall be reorganized in the following manner:

1. The colleges of agricultural and forestry engineering in Prague, Brno, and Kosice (with the exception of their forestry sections), as well as the veterinary colleges in Brno and Kosice, shall be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Sciences, and Art, beginning 1 January 1953, to that of the Ministry of Agriculture. This latter ministry will direct them in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Sciences, and Art.

2. The Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering in Prague, with the exception of the forestry section, is to be withdrawn as of 1 September 1952 from the organization of Ceske Vysoké Učení Technické (Czech Higher Technical Training), and an independent agricultural college is to be organized in Prague, with an agronomic faculty specializing in plant pathology, an economic faculty, and a mechanization faculty.

3. The College of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering in Brno, with the exception of its Faculty of Forestry, is to be combined with the Veterinary College in Brno to form the Agricultural College in Brno, with an agronomic faculty specializing in fodder, horticulture, and fruit growing; a zootechnical faculty; and a veterinary faculty.

Lectures on the food industry at this college will not be held until a decision has been reached on the question of training of engineering personnel for the food industry by the colleges in Prague and Bratislava.

4. The College of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering in Kosice, with the exception of its Faculty of Forestry and Wood Industry, is to be combined with the Veterinary College in Kosice to form a new Agricultural College in Kosice, with an agronomic faculty, a zootechnical faculty, and a veterinary faculty.

5. The course at the Mechanization Faculty will require 5 years.

6. The Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

a. Organize a permanent advisory council for the agricultural colleges to serve as an advisory organ of the minister and to provide for systematic collaboration of all agricultural schools.

b. Organize a College Section in the Main Administration of Agricultural Education and School Farms to direct the agricultural colleges.

## II. TECHNICAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS

To provide for the training of a sufficient number of semiskilled technical personnel, the Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

1. Expand the capacity of the technical agricultural schools so that in coming years many more students will graduate from them than previously.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

2. Arrange that in these schools semiskilled technicians shall be trained in the following fields: cultivation, horticulture, seed raising, fodder growing, fishing, veterinary science, stock raising, agricultural economics, and agricultural machinery.

3. As of 1 September 1952, open ten new agricultural schools, of which four shall be in the Czech provinces and six in Slovakia. Of those in Slovakia, one will use the Hungarian language and one will use the Ukrainian language.

4. Instead of specialization only in the last year of studies, which has not been satisfactory, introduce specialization in the second year, except in schools using Hungarian and Ukrainian, where there will be no specialization. Students will be permitted to transfer to schools with other specialties only after the first year of their studies.

5. In agreement with the Ministry of Forestry and the Wood Industry, transfer the forestry schools and their school farms or forests, by 1 July 1952, to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Forestry and the Wood Industry.

### III. AGRICULTURAL SPECIALTY SCHOOLS

To provide for the training of a sufficient number of agricultural specialists, the Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

1. Beginning 1 September 1952, organize agricultural specialty schools as follows:

a. Establish 2-year agricultural specialty schools for mechanization, horticulture and fruit growing viticulture, hop growing, fiber plant production, and production of hot-climate plants.

b. Establish one-year agricultural specialty schools for crop growing, stock raising, poultry raising, bee keeping, mechanization, fodder growing, and fishing.

2. Without exceeding the approved number of such schools, establish ten using the Hungarian language, two using Ukrainian, and one using Polish.

3. Introduce in these schools specialized final examinations.

### IV. AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNTING SCHOOLS

To provide for training a sufficient number of auxiliary accountants, the Minister of Agriculture shall establish, by 1 September 1952, 2-year agricultural accounting schools for training auxiliary accountants in the JZD and other agricultural establishments.

### V. CENTERS FOR WORKING YOUTH

To provide for the training of basic specialized workers, the Minister of Agriculture shall establish the following by 1 September 1952:

- 3 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

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1. Two-year SPD (Stredisky Pracujiciho Dorostu, Centers for Working Youth) to train the following basic specialized workers: machine fitters, automobile mechanics, blacksmiths, electrical engineers for motor vehicles, fishermen, fruit raisers, gardeners, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, saddlers, and beltmakers.
2. One-year SPD to train the following basic specialized workers: agricultural tractor operators; cattle, pig, sheep, horse, and poultry raisers; growers of hops, potatoes, beets, and plants suitable for warm climates; vegetable growers; vine growers; and flower growers.
3. One-year SPD, with school farms equipped with suitable agricultural school, state-farm, and other installations. Basic specialized workers in plant and animal production will be trained there in new agricultural and zootechnical methods and in the organization of work in socialist agricultural establishments.

#### VI. TRAINING OF MATURE WORKERS

To improve the training of mature workers, the Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

Beginning 1 September 1952, organize courses at agricultural, technical, and specialized schools for training mature workers, in the following manner:

##### A. At Technical Agricultural Schools

1. Five-month courses shall be organized to train directors and leaders for state farms.
2. Five-month courses shall be organized to train MTS agronomists.
3. Five-month courses shall be organized to train district technicians and veterinary workers who have previously had 6 weeks of practical experience.
4. Five-month courses shall be organized for chairmen of JZD. Chairmen of JZD and leaders of working groups shall be accepted for these courses if they have had a minimum of 2 years of successful work in their jobs.
5. Five-month courses shall be organized for all newly appointed chairmen of JZD who have had previous practical agricultural experience.
6. Three-month courses shall be organized to improve the qualifications of workers of the agricultural offices of ONV (okres national committees) and KNV (kraj national committees).
7. At the technical agricultural schools for mechanization, permanent 6-month courses shall be organized to improve the qualifications of semiskilled technical personnel of MTS.

##### B. At Agricultural Specialty Schools

1. Three-month courses shall be organized in accounting schools for JZD accountants who have not previously been trained in this field.
2. Two-month courses shall be organized in the accounting schools for all JZD accountants who have already had one month of training.
3. Four-month courses shall be organized for leaders of working groups engaged in crop production who have held their jobs for at least one year.

- 4 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

4. One-month courses shall be organized in crop-growing schools to train all newly appointed leaders of working groups in crop production on JZD and state farms.

5. Four-month courses shall be organized in animal husbandry schools for leaders of stock-raising groups on JZD and state farms who have held their jobs for at least one year.

6. One-month courses shall be organized in animal husbandry schools for all newly appointed leaders of stock-raising groups on JZD and state farms.

7. Ten-month courses shall be organized for training MTS repair workers. Tractor operators who have done good work may be accepted as students in these schools.

8. Ten-month courses shall be organized to train MTS brigade workers. The best MTS tractor operators, who have used both wheel-type and caterpillar-type tractors, will be accepted for these courses.

9. Five-month courses shall be organized to train combine operators. The best tractor operators and repair workers will be accepted for these courses.

10. Five-month courses shall be organized to train tractor operators on caterpillar-type tractors. Operators of wheel-type tractors who have done good work will be accepted as students for these courses.

11. Three-month courses shall be organized to train operators of wheel-type tractors. These courses are for students who have not had any previous training. The students are to be selected primarily from among JZD members.

12. Courses for artificial insemination technicians shall be organized in two localities. These schools shall be equipped with laboratories and shall have their own stables. New artificial insemination technicians who have previously had 6 weeks of practical work at insemination stations shall be trained in 2-month courses. Final training of supervisory workers of the insemination stations will be accomplished in one-month courses.

#### C. Special Courses at Agricultural Specialty Schools

As needed, special 2-month courses to improve the qualifications of workers will be organized in the agricultural specialty schools.

1. These will include courses for hop growing, flax raising, viticulture, vegetable raising, poultry raising, bee keeping, sheep raising, management of fisheries, fodder growing, and fruit growing.

2. In cooperation with the Minister of Education, Sciences, and Art, courses will be organized at the agricultural colleges as needed to improve the qualifications of supervisory workers of KVV and ONV agricultural offices, directors of MTS and state farms, agronomists, zootechnicians, veterinarians, MTS machine technicians engineers engaged in the mechanization of agriculture, etc.

3. JZD officials shall be appointed to these courses alternately so that the operation of the cooperatives will not be interrupted.

4. Students of all courses for mature workers shall take final examinations and shall receive statements of their results.

- 5 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

## VII. MASS TRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Systematic, planned, voluntary, free schools for all employees and workers in agricultural production, administration, and research must be organized to a much greater extent than heretofore. This training is to be organized in labor schools in each agricultural establishment, office, and institute. It must not interrupt normal work operation.

Cooperative members shall be instructed in specialized groups for crop or stock raisers. These groups shall be organized in connection with the agricultural schools or directly on model JZD.

The Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

1. Establish regular labor schools in all MTS and state farms, in agricultural administration, and in research. In these schools, employees will be trained in Soviet production methods and in specific methods to improve the organization of work. Production methods will be discussed with them.
2. Work out a proposal for the basic organization of instruction by 15 June 1952.

VIII. SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS  
TO AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS AND COURSES

An end must be put to the existing practice of assigning students without regard for their class origin, or students who have had little success in school; furthermore a sufficient number of girls must be found for the schools. In all krajs, provisions must be made to adhere to the planned number of students and to improve the assignment of students according to the needs of production, so that young workers engaged in production are assigned to work for which they were prepared in school.

To improve the selection and assignment of students, the Ministers of Agriculture, of Education, Sciences and Art and of Manpower, as well as the chairmen of KNV and ONV, shall insure that:

1. Students accepted for the agricultural schools are primarily the children of small and middle farmers and workers and have a good scholastic record.
2. The following requirements for entrance to individual types of agricultural schools are observed:
  - a. Selected graduates of tertiary schools who passed the matura (matriculation examination) shall be accepted for agricultural colleges.
  - b. Selected students of secondary schools shall be accepted for agricultural technical schools, as well as some older workers with practical experience.
  - c. Students from 17 to 40 years of age, with a minimum of 2 years' practical work in agricultural production, shall be accepted for agricultural specialty schools. Preference shall be given to those who have achieved outstanding success in agricultural production and who have been assigned to school by JZD or by other agricultural installations of the socialist sector.

- 6 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

d. Students who have mastered some branch of metalworking shall be accepted for the agricultural specialty schools.

e. For the agricultural accounting schools, preference will be given to girls who have successfully completed a secondary school, especially to those sent to school by JZD.

3. Only workers who have completed their basic military training are accepted for the long-term courses for mature workers.

4. The national committees, the chairmen of JZD, and the directors of MTS and state farms, take the necessary measures to provide that:

a. The greatest possible care is devoted to the selection and recruitment of students for schools and courses, and the selection and assignment of students are completed within the prescribed time limits.

b. Records are kept of graduates of all courses, and their practical activity is followed.

5. Graduates of agricultural colleges and agricultural technical schools are assigned according to the needs of the state plan. The most successful students shall be given their choice of jobs within the framework of the plan.

6. Graduates of other schools and courses are returned to the JZD or other agricultural installations of the socialist sector which sent them to school.

The Minister of Information and Enlightenment shall, in cooperation with the Minister of Agriculture, systematically publicize the training of agricultural workers on the radio, in the press, and by films, and he shall intensify this publicity program before the beginning of the school year.

#### IX. MATERIAL PROVISIONS FOR STUDENTS

The Minister of Agriculture shall, in collaboration with the ministers concerned and with the national committees, provide for the construction of dormitories in all schools and care for the needs of the students according to the following principles:

##### 1. For students of agricultural schools

a. In all schools, dormitories shall be built, corresponding to the capacity of the school. The training and equipment shall be provided by the state; all the personnel and material expenses, including those for equipment and investment, shall be met by the state.

b. The cost of housing and feeding the students is to be met by dormitory fees which shall be collected from the individual students. Contributions to these expenses shall be made by the state and by the JZD or other agricultural establishments which sent the students to school. Contributions to dormitory housing from state funds are to be made in socially warranted cases in the form of contributions partially covering the operational expenses of school dormitories.

##### 2. For students of courses

a. The cost of room and board for mature workers in the courses is to be met by state funds.

- 7 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

b. The economic requirements of students of long-term courses for employees of public administrations or of agricultural national enterprises and the needs of their families are to be met by contributions, as provided by law.

Students in short-term courses shall receive all the material benefits to which they are entitled during their employment. These are to be paid for by the funds of the organization which sent them to the course. Short-term courses are courses shorter than 6 weeks.

c. Through the agencies of the public administration, an agreement shall be reached with the JZD that all members of the cooperative sent to courses and schools be credited during their training with from one half to two working units daily, according to the capacity of the cooperative and at its discretion.

JZD members shall be paid from funds of the Ministry of Agriculture in socially warranted cases; a family allowance of 300 crowns per month shall be paid for each child [of a student?] not otherwise provided for.

### 3. For students of SPD

a. In the SPD, the students are to be materially cared for according to existing law.

b. In the Strediska Zemedelske Pracujici Mladeze, (Centers for Agricultural Working Youth) productive training is to be organized so that the income from the productive work of the apprentices will cover the expenses for their housing, work clothes, shoes, and pocket money.

4. In all dormitories, except college dormitories, which house at least 40 students, one housemaster is to be provided, plus an assistant housemaster for every 60 additional students. The director of the school or the leader of the SPD is to be in charge of any dormitory housing fewer students.

5. A house manager is to be assigned to dormitories housing and boarding more than 100 students.

## X. TEACHERS FOR AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS

Many teachers do not meet the political, professional, and pedagogic requirements for training specialized agricultural personnel. To raise the quality of the teaching staffs at agricultural schools and SPD, the Ministers of Agriculture and of Education, Sciences, and Art shall do the following:

1. Beginning 1 September 1952, organize at the Agricultural College in Prague a one-year seminar for training agricultural-school teachers, with a practical training school in Liblice. Graduates of agricultural colleges will be accepted for this school as well as, temporarily, selected graduates of agricultural technical schools. A total of 90 students are to be selected per year, of whom 30 are to be from Slovakia.

2. See that in this seminar the teachers and housemasters of the SPD are given political, specialized, and pedagogic training.

3. See that individual study and specialized instruction are organized in model establishments to increase the specialized qualifications of agricultural-school teachers.

- 8 -

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

STAT

4. By 31 December 1952, work out directives for paying teachers who have achieved outstanding results in teaching, in specialist aid to JZD, or on school farms. They shall be rewarded by bonuses and honorary awards.

5. See that agencies of the public administration aid specialization in the agricultural schools by providing for satisfactory housing for specialist teachers who have to be transferred.

#### XI. SPECIALIZED WORKING GROUPS OF AGRICULTURAL-SCHOOL TEACHERS

To improve the exchange of specialized pedagogic experience and to provide for the collective solution of basic problems of a pedagogic and specialized nature, the Minister of Agriculture, in agreement with the Minister of the Interior, shall do the following:

1. Establish Pracovni Skupiny Ucitelu Zemedelskych Skol (Working Groups of Teachers of Agricultural Schools) for training personnel of the agricultural offices of KNV. These working groups will consist of teachers at agricultural schools and SPD. The chairmen of the specialized working groups are to be appointed from among the best teachers in the kraj in the particular field.

2. Establish specialized working groups in the Ministry of Agriculture, consisting of chairmen of kraj specialized working groups and college professors.

The purpose of these groups will be (a) to propose measures to improve agricultural training; and (b) to propose changes in teaching plans, textbooks, teaching aids, study and production practice and school specialization.

3. Form an advisory council of the Main Administration of Agricultural Education and School Farms, consisting of the chairmen of the Ustredni Odborne Pracovni Skupiny (Central Specialized Working Groups). This advisory council will direct the activity of the se groups.

4. In agreement with the Minister of Information and Enlightenment, provide for the material and personnel requirements of the periodical Zemedelska Skola (Agricultural School). The purpose of this periodical will be to raise the professional qualifications of the teachers in agricultural schools and disseminate the successful methods of Soviet pedagogy.

#### XII. TEXTBOOKS, TEACHING AIDS, AND SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

The shortage of textbooks, particularly for specialized subjects, is one of the most serious impediments to the success of the work of teachers and students. So that all types of newly organized agricultural schools and courses may be equipped as soon as possible with specialized textbooks and teaching aids, the Minister of Agriculture in cooperation with the Minister of Education, Sciences and Art, shall do the following:

1. By 1 August 1952, work out teaching plans for all types of agricultural schools, courses, and SPD. The teaching programs in the mechanization schools shall be arranged so that mechanics forms the basis of teaching.

2. See that temporary textbooks for the principal subjects dealing with production in the agricultural schools are written and published by 1 October 1952.

- 9 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

3. Provide that regular textbooks for all subjects dealing with production are written and published for the schools and SPD by the beginning of the 1953-1954 school year.
4. By 1 September 1953, provide for working out and publishing the methodology of practical teaching to improve the professional and pedagogical quality of students' practical work.
5. By 1 August 1952, issue a list of basic teaching aids necessary to equip the schools and SPD.
6. By 1 September 1952, provide for working out and publishing teaching texts for the basic types of courses for mature workers.
7. Organize teaching aids sections for equipping agricultural schools with teaching aids as a part of the seminars for training teachers of these schools.
8. Keep the libraries, laboratories, and classrooms of the agricultural schools equipped according to their particular specialties.
9. Assign the task of approving textbooks in specialized fields to the Czechoslovak Agricultural Academy.
10. Arrange that the Minister of Education, Sciences, and Art provide for the publication of textbooks in general fields of study for agricultural schools, by 1 August 1953, and provide for the production of teaching aids.
11. Arrange that the Minister of Information and Enlightenment provide for the publication of all textbooks and teaching texts.
12. Arrange that the Minister of Agriculture provide for the regular equipment of agricultural schools and SPD, especially those devoted to mechanization, with the latest types of agricultural machinery, and provide for supplementing this equipment with the first products of serial production of all new types of agricultural machinery as they are produced.
13. Arrange that the Minister of Heavy-Machine Building, the Minister of General-Machine Building, and the Minister-Chairman of the State Planning Office equip the agricultural mechanization schools and the SPD with the necessary machine tools, other tools, and measuring instruments, by 1 September 1953, under the investment quotas allotted to the Ministry of Agriculture.

### XIII. PRACTICAL TRAINING OF STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS

The practical training of students is hampered by many shortcomings, particularly the lack of school farms. Practical laboratory work is neglected in almost all schools, and its significance is underestimated. To improve the practical training of students, the Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

1. Provide in the teaching plans that 30 percent of the total teaching time be devoted to student practice in the technical agricultural schools and the agricultural specialty schools.
2. See that the schools plan their practical work programs for the entire year and make detailed plans one month ahead for both practical production and study.

- 10 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

3. Provide that in the course of their practical work, the students give specialized aid to JZD.
4. Provide that in the practical production work which is done on the best JZD and state farms, particular attention be given to work in groups and work according to norms and that the students gain practical experience in planning, directing, and control.
5. See that the students are properly paid, according to norms, for the work they do in practical production.
6. Arrange that the Minister of Internal Trade provide work clothing and footwear for the students of agricultural schools, using planned funds.

## XIV. SCHOOL FARMS

The new assignment of the agricultural schools and the SPD requires that their farms become an example of socialist large-scale production. The overwhelming proportion of schools have small farms, just as in the prewar republic.

To improve the status of the school farms, the Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:

1. At all agricultural schools and centers for working youth, with the exception of mechanization establishments, build model school farms of from 100 to 200 hectares by (a) receiving land allotments according to existing law, and (b) taking over suitable installations from state farms or from the public sector by agreement with the ministries concerned.
2. In assigning production goals to the school farms as independent centrally planned units, take into consideration the purpose for which they were established.
3. Equip the school farms with buildings, machinery and other operational equipment, particularly by providing sufficient stable and warehouse space; tractors and agricultural machinery; a vegetable garden of not less than one hectare, equipped with starting frames, greenhouses, and watering equipment; a garden area of at least one hectare, including an apiary with at least ten hives; a poultry house with a flock of at least 100 chickens; and a brooder house for baby chicks.
4. Organize the administration of school farms so that they will form a harmonious unit with the school or SPD and so that their management and economic achievements will be an example to the surrounding farms.
5. Delegate the director of the school or the leader of the SPD to administer the school farms. A deputy for farm administration will be appointed to aid these directors. He will be responsible for the management of the farm to the director or to the leader of SPD and will be a member of the pedagogical board. The directors and leaders of the SPD who are responsible for the administration and technical leadership of the school farms shall receive a bonus of from 500 to 1,000 crowns per month, according to directives which will be issued by the Ministry of Agriculture by 1 September 1952.
6. Intensify cooperation between agricultural education and agricultural research, so that the results of new agricultural research may be disseminated at these school farms much more widely than heretofore. For purposes of training and applying the results of research in practice, agricultural experimentation also shall be undertaken in cooperation with the research institutes.

- 11 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

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## XV. JURISDICTION IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS

Jurisdiction in matters pertaining to the reorganization and expansion of agricultural schools is divided as follows:

1. The Minister of Agriculture shall do the following:
  - a. Establish and abolish agricultural schools, except agricultural colleges within the framework of the plan approved by the government and decide on the field of specialization of a particular school.
  - b. In agreement with the Ministry of the Interior, appoint and dismiss kraj inspectors of agricultural schools and directors of agricultural technical schools.
  - c. Appoint and dismiss directors of agricultural specialty schools and administrators of school farms, as well as leaders of SPD.
  - d. Direct and carry out supreme supervision of the agricultural schools. In the case of general educational subjects, this is done with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education, Sciences, and Arts.
2. KNV councils, on the proposal of the agricultural referent, appoint and recall teachers and housemasters of agricultural schools and of SPD.
3. The KNV supervise agricultural schools, SPD, and their dormitories, as well as school farms, politically, pedagogically, and financially.
4. The directors of the agricultural schools, in agreement with the kraj agricultural inspector, appoint and dismiss other employees of agricultural schools and school farms. The agricultural referents of KNV and ONV, as well as the directors of agricultural schools, are personally responsible for the strict observance of the decree of the Ministry of Education, Sciences, and Art of 11 January 1951 concerning measures to prevent interference in teaching in schools. They shall also see that teachers and students are not assigned tasks which have no connection with the actual purpose of the agricultural schools and which are not specified in the working plans of those schools.

## XVI. MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND SCHOOL FARMS

The Minister of Agriculture shall appoint a Main Administration of Agricultural Education and School Farms to manage the agricultural schools, SPD, and school farms.

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- 12 -

RESTRICTED